

The Indonesian Update

Monthly Review on Economic, Legal, Security, Political, and Social Affairs



Main Report: Assesing the Economic Policies of Presidential Candidates

Law

New Government Legal Development Directions ■

Politics

Considering the Visions of the Presidential Candidates on the Development of Democracy in the 2014 Election ■

Presidential Election Campaign and Political Education ■

Observing Candidate Debates in 2014 Presidential Elections ■

Social

The Need to Oppose Child Labor Practices ■

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FOREWORD

In the lead-up to the July 9 elections, the competition between the two presidential and vice presidential is heating up. Visions, missions, programs and promises have been presented to the public for their vote

However, in case people need to explore and examine more deeply what strategic policies offered by both candidates. Surely there will be some aspects of the different approaches offered by both candidates.

The July 2014's edition of the Indonesian Update raises a main theme on "Assessing the Economic Policy of Presidential Candidates in 2014". On Law, it talks about "Direction and Construction Law New Government". On politics, it reviews "Considering Democratic Development from president and vice president candidates 2014 election". Social Affairs discussed "Relevance Against Child Labour".

In addition, on politics, this edition of the Indonesian Update also discusses "Presidential Election Campaign and Political Education" and "Listening the Candidates Debate in the 2014 presidential election".

The regular publication of the Indonesian Update with its actual themes is expected to help policy makers in government and business environment -- as well as academics, think tanks, and other elements of civil society, both within and outside the country, to get the actual information and contextual analysis of economic, legal, political, cultural and social developments in Indonesia, as well as to understand the public policy in Indonesia.

Happy Reading.

Assesing the Economic Policies of Presidential Candidates

As in the previous presidential elections (Pilpres), the author notices that the slogans of both candidates are more or less similar; that is, promoting people's economy. We will not be surprised as the slogans have a good impression especially on people belong to the low-middle income class.

However, the author assumes that the people should learn more about the strategic policies offered by both candidates, as there might be different aspects in policy approaches by both candidates.

Analyzing the Indonesian Economy Challenges

The presidential candidates should have strong economic platforms, which are based on what will Indonesia face in the future. The author sees that there are several economic challenges that will be faced by the elected President.

The first one is a demographic bonus occurring in Indonesia that could benefit Indonesia. As two thirds of Indonesia's population is in the productive age, they might be more productive in economic activities. Nevertheless, there will be worse records if the government is not ready in preparing human capital.

The Central Bureau of Statistics (BPS) recorded that the labor force in Indonesia was 118.19 million in 2013. Moreover, around 60 percent of them were are merely graduates of Junior High school or below. This indicates that human quality is still relatively low.

It should also be remembered that Indonesia will be part of the ASEAN Economic Community (AEC), which will commence in 2015. The agreement will bind every member in the group to liberalize the commodity and service trade (free flows of goods/services), investment (free flows of investment), and free flows of skilled labor.

Therefore, the candidates should concern about the quality of human capital to compete with those of other members.

The second is the problem of decreasing fiscal maneuverability. This appears to be a problem every year. This could be caused by a less political will from the government in realizing the effectiveness of the use of the state budget.

The author takes an example of the burden of fuel subsidy, which might cause difficulties for the government in using the budget wisely. This is one of the examples of the unproductive uses of the state budget intended to help the poor people in Indonesia.

The third one is that Indonesia faces a problem also faced by other developing countries in the world; that is, a middle income trap. The World Bank defines a middle income trap as a country that has GDP per capita of only USD 1,000 – 12,000. Besides, other characteristics are low investment ratio, limitation of human capital, and low manufacturing growth.

Nowadays, Indonesia has a GDP per capita of around Rp 36 million. The problem for Indonesia as being caught in the middle income trap is the limitation in the ability to compete with advanced countries. On the other hand, Indonesia has a higher wage rate compared to other countries with lower income levels.

Comparing Presidential Candidates' Strategic Policies

Moreover, the author will compare the economic policies offered by both candidates to deal with Indonesian economic problems discussed previously.

First, the Prabowo-Hatta pair emphasizes on education attainment where there is access to education for all individuals. Moreover, these candidates also promote a real program on improving education facilities that might complement the access to education itself. However, the author does not see innovative programs offered by these candidates.

On the other hand, the Jokowi-JK pair emphasizes on developing education system that can be explained at the technical level through the free education card program. Besides, these candidates will also subsidize higher education to develop knowledge and technology.

In this term, the author hopes that the AEC challenges can be answered by both candidates if they are already elected. Therefore, the competitiveness level of labor in Indonesia compared to other ASEAN countries should be improved via increasing the education quality so that the number of skilled labor will grow. In the end, this depends on the leadership from the elected president.

Second, in the limitation of fiscal maneuverability, especially in the handling of energy subsidies which occurred as a problem every year, author believes that the Jokowi-JK pair is more realistic in addressing the problems. This will prioritize the use of alternative energy.

On the other hand, Prabowo-Hatta uses a fuel subsidy scheme that can be beneficial for the people. Besides, they are still going to push the alternative energy conversion. This solution seems to merely impress all parties without looking at the budget limitation.

The price discrimination in buying subsidized fuel might cause moral hazard on the part of the consumers. In the end, the fuel subsidy burden might create a leakage. This is contrast with what Prabowo-Hatta keeps reminding (the leakage as a main problem in the Indonesia economy). However, both candidates have the same vision to increase the tax ratio, as tax will still be the main source of national income.

Third, the author sees that the middle income trap challengea have not been addressed by both candidates. From the presidential candidate debate on 15th of June, Jokowi emphasized more on micro scale such as free education and developing traditional markets. Stimulating the industrialization in manufacturing through technology development is required to cope with the middle income trap with a view that industries in Indonesia can be more competitive compares to developed countries.

On the other hand, Prabowo keeps emphasizing on the leakage as the fundamental problem in the Indonesian economy. In addition, he often emphasizes on the agriculture sector; for example, by improving agriculture for farmers.

In this context, the author asks both candidates to address the development of the manufacturing industrialization in Indonesia that can compete with other developed countries.

Finally, all policies in the economic sector will not be successful without a strong political will from the elected President.

- Akbar Nikmatullah Dachlan -

The economic policies of both candidates should be based on challenges and basic problems faced by the nation. However, a political will and leadership in the end can contribute to he success of the policies.

New Government Legal Development Directions

In the last few weeks, almost all of the Indonesian mass media have covered the campaign activities of presidential candidates (candidates) and vice presidential candidates (vice). The vision and mission of each candidate has been presented to the the people. Political promises have been presented to gain the sympathy of the constituents.

The visions and missions have been presented in various forums, which do not only complement the campaign. Later the political promises will be transformed into legal instruments of Indonesia. The vision and the mission will be a guide for the new government to realize the political promises delivered to the people.

Visions and Missions of Candidates

Prior to guessing the direction of legal development of the new government will be inaugurated on October 20, one should look at the vision and mission of each candidate. Based on the vision and mission documents obtained from the KPU website, each pair of candidates has outlined its vision and mission.

Candidates Prabowo and Hatta Rajasa have a vision and mission entitled “The Real Agenda and Programs to Save Indonesia”. There are eight main points, which include economic, social, political, defense and security, legal, education, and health topics. The eight main points are:

- a. To build a strong, sovereign, just and prosperous economy;
- b. To implement democratic economy;
- c. To rebuilding food, energy, and natural resource sovereignty;
- d. To improve the quality of human resources to implement education reform;
- e. To improve the quality of social development through health, social, religious, cultural, and sports programmes;
- f. To accelerate the development of infrastructure;

- g. To preserve nature and the environment;
- h. To build a government that protects the people, free of corruption, and effectively serves.

The other candidates Joko Widodo Jusuf Kalla have the vision and mission with tagline “The Way of Change for Indonesia’s Sovereignty, Independence, and Personality”. The vision that has been brought by the candidate pair is to realize Indonesia’s sovereignty, independence, and personality based on mutual help.

The vision is then translated into seven missions, which are:

- a. To realise national security that is capable to maintain sovereignty, sustainable economic independence by protecting maritime resources, and to reflect the personality of Indonesia as an archipelagic state;
- b. To realize a modern, balanced, and democratic society based on the rule of law;
- c. To realize a free-active foreign policy and to strengthen an identity as a maritime nation;
- d. To realizing the quality of Indonesian life, which is high, advanced, and prosperous;
- e. To realizing a powerful-competitive nation;
- f. To realize the quality of Indonesian life, which is high, advanced, powerful, and based on national interests;
- g. To realize the society that has cultural personality.

Generally, the visions and missions of the two candidates are ideal, both supporting the sovereignty and independence of the nation in many aspects. Anyone who will win the battle on July 9, 2014 will realize its vision and mission.

The mechanism to be followed to realize the vision and mission it is to put them into legal instrument; that is, legislations. The new government formed from the results of the 2014 presidential elections will face a challenge to form a variety of laws and regulations to carry out the vision and mission.

Direction of Legal Development

Positive laws, in this case the legislations, are tools to realize the vision and mission of the elected president and vice president. Each sector has some of the existing legal instruments, therefore, the new government has to think about the reform of the legislations.

The various sectors of the economy need a legal instrument reform. Sovereignty and economic independence should be done by reviewing all aspects of economic legislations that could potentially conflict with the 1945 Constitution.

The essence of an independent and sovereign economy is one that is not dependent on other countries. Therefore, the president and vice elected president shall formulate legislations that lead to the goals.

Fighting corruption is a tough task for the elected candidates. Even though the existing legal instruments are already quite good but less effective for preventing corruption. The elected President should be able to maximize the Prosecutors and the Indonesian National Police for the prevention and eradication of corruption.

The deliberations of the Criminal Process Code Bill and the Criminal Code Bill that have long been delayed should also be part of the homework for the elected candidates. Legal development in the legal sector and fighting corruption should also pay attention to the Anti-Corruption Law and the Law on the Corruption Eradication Commission. Strengthening KPK is key to efforts to prevent and eradicate corruption in Indonesia.

Related social sectors such as education, health, and social welfare also need to be some concern. Since the era of President Megawati Soekarnoputri, there had already been the National Social Security System Law, which later in the era of President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono was enhanced by the establishment of the Social Security Agency Law. Throughout 2009-2014, various regulations have been issued to carry out the mandate of BPJS Law.

It will be the duty of the new president and vice president to improve BPJS by implementing regulations or even improving BPJS Law and Social Security Law. Perfecting the law is not easy, the elected president and vice president shall cooperate with the DPR and DPD.

Legal development will be obvious from the National Legislation Program to be mutually agreed by the president, the vice president and House of Representatives for the first time. The indication of realization of the vision and the mission can be seen from legislations that will prioritized by the elected president and vice president.

The annual and five-yearly legal development directions become important for the realization of political promises. Without the establishments of clear legal instruments, the vision and mission cannot be carried out.

-Asrul Ibrahim Nur-

The visions and missions have been presented in various forums, which do not only complement the campaign. Later the political promises will be transformed into legal instruments of Indonesia.

Considering the Visions of the Presidential Candidates on the Development of Democracy in the 2014 Election

In the lead-up to the vote casting on July 9, the two candidates are more encouraged to promote themselves to the people, through open campaignsto advertising in the mass media.

Furthermore, the two candidates have also tried to convince the people with opposing ideas in the candidate debates, held by the General Elections Commission (KPU).

The author tries to highlight the idea of building two pairs of Indonesian democracy. A theme on democracy had been decided as one of the themes conducted June 9, 2014. The theme on democratic development was very important because people would see the nation's democratic journey within the next five years.

Democracy Development According to Candidates

Candidate number one Prabowo-Hatta Rajasa said that democracy was to be improved, maintained and continuously developed. But, democracy in Indonesia still has shortcomings. People feel that they have political rights, but sometimes they feel that they cannot fully exercise political rights.

Prabowo said that democracy was a tool to make a strong state. Prabowo wants democracy that brings prosperity. Prabowo also said that a clean government was a necessary condition for achieving the goalof a sovereign, just and prosperous state that is able to deliver welfare to the Indonesian people.

Meanwhile, vice presidential candidate Hatta Rajasa said democracy was not merely a means of achieving goals but it is also the value system establishing the truth and prosperity for the people of Indonesia.

The point of idea from candidate pair Prabowo-Hatta is the development of democracy that contributes to the welfare of the people. If you look at the exposure, the authors assess the norms conveyed by Prabowo-Hatta.

According to the author, Prabowo's statement that democracy is a tool is a democratic procedural approach. Procedural democracy

itself in the short term is not always in line with the increase in economic welfare of the people. But in the long term direct election is the only way to improve the people's quality of life because of two main principles; namely, the principle of consent and the principle of equality.

On the other hand, presidential candidate number two Joko Widodo (Jokowi) said that democracy in our opinion is to hear the voice of the people and to implement it". Jokowi stresses that the visits (blusukan) to villages, markets, river banks, farms, and fish auction sites are a way to listen to the voice of the people via dialogue.

Prabowo is Normative; Jokowi is Innovative

The author assesses that Prabowo is highly normative, while Jokowi is more practical. Blusukan is a way by which democratic development can be done simply by listening to the people in dialogue with the people, catering to the needs of the people. It is how leaders can implement democratic principles, such as participation, fairness, openness (transparency) and accountability. The goal is the creation of a government for the welfare of the people, which operates according to the principles of democracy.

However, the author would like to remind that blusukan should not only be a ceremony. Blusukan will not mean anything without the commitment of leaders. Commitment should not only mean popularity, but it actually means applying democratic principles for the realization of the people's welfare. Blusukan must be institutionalized into the institutions of democracy, both in the executive, legislative, and judicial branches of government.

Jokowi said that "blusukan" has been institutionalized in the form of e-government in Jakarta. E-government is the use of information and communication technology in the governance process to increase participation, efficiency, effectiveness, transparency and accountability.

Further more, it is important for us to realize that one key to the success of democratic development is a strong leadership by example. Therefore, according to the author, a good candidate is a leader who has breakthroughs with a different approach. An intelligent leader is the one who not only formulates and defines the mission and vision of a great concept, but the one who can also implement it. A leader who is able to demonstrate in words, actions and everyday behaviors is a role model to achieve democratic development in Indonesia.

- Arfianto Purbolaksono-

One key to the success of democratic development is a strong leadership by example.

Presidential Election Campaign and Political Education

Now, the presidential election in Indonesia is entering a very important stage, which is the campaign period. This stage is the momentum for the candidates to present their visions and missions to the constituencies. This momentum is also where the people should celebrate democracy and get a political education in order to choose their leaders.

Presidential campaign is based on the provisions of Chapter VII of Law Number 42/2008 on the Election of President and Vice-President (Presidential Election Law). Furthermore, the General Elections Commission (KPU) has set KPU Regulation (PKPU) Number 16/2014 on the Presidential Election Campaign as amended by PKPU Number 27 /2014.

The regulation on election campaign regulates strictly things that can be used as or not in a campaign. The substance of the campaign is not just conveying the visions and missions of the candidates, but there are also political education aspects that should be done by the candidate for their constituencies.

Black and White Campaigns

Presidential Election is one momentum of political excitements that is celebrated by most Indonesians. This is can at least be seen from the lively campaigns held by both candidates. People gather in rallies just to see and hear political promises of their leaders.

Nevertheless, there is one thing that is regrettable, which is black campaigns that tend to slander. There are also campaign materials that offend religion, race, and group. From a nationality perspective, this is a very dangerous behavior.

Actually, campaign material content has been regulated by the Presidential Election Law. Article 33 of the Law stipulates that the campaign should be carried out openly, honestly, and responsibly, as is part of the political education for the public.

Presidential Election Law also prohibits candidates and their campaign teams to insult anyone, religion, ethnicity, race, class. The candidates should not promise or give money or other material to the participants of the campaigns.

In fact, the negative or black campaign using religious symbols, ethnicity, race, and group is quite common now. Although it was not done by a team official campaign of any candidate. The case of the *Obor Rakyat* tabloid attacking one candidate is a poor record of the 2014 presidential election campaign.

Political education should be the goal. Campaign symbols should not sharpen differences and spread hate and even open old wounds. All of these are done only for pragmatic purposes.

Another campaign model that cannot be stopped is the social media campaign. In the world of social media, there are a lot of anonymous parties who campaign for the candidates by insulting or even slandering the other candidates.

Presidential Election Law passed in 2008, does not explicitly regulate the social media campaign issues. The increasingly sophisticated internet technology has been used by the candidates' campaigns.

Through the social media, negative campaign or black campaign can develop quickly. If there is no clear regulation, then in the future the social media can be a boomerang for unity in the society.

Healthy Campaign

Political campaign should not divide the people of Indonesia. The differences that exist in society should not be used as campaign materials. This has the potential to disrupt peace.

The Presidential Elections have been done three times. Political and legal cultures have slowly begun to form. Democracy continues to consolidate. Even so, some healthy campaigns have actually intensified. Political education by both candidates' campaign teams has been insufficient.

Political education for constituencies can be done in open campaign forums or through media channels. Print, electronic, and social media can be channels for political education. Effective campaign will not only able to move people to certain places, but it will also make people realize how important democracy is.

If the election is considered important, then the society will be critical of the candidates as well as of the visions and missions.

The decrease in apathy towards politics is also an indication that the campaigns by the candidates have effectively provided political education.

Healthy campaigns will not attack the other candidates. Healthy campaigns promote rational reasons to constituencies about the advantages of a candidate. Healthy campaigns promote common senses rather than hatreds and slanders against the other candidates.

Open, honest and responsible campaigns should really be enforced. They should not only be mere articles in a law. The campaigns should be healthy and provide political education for the community.

The substance of the campaign is not just conveying the visions and missions of the candidates, but there are also aspects of political education that should be done by the candidates for their constituencies.

-Asrul Ibrahim Nur-

Observing Candidate Debates in 2014 Presidential Elections

In the lead-up to the Presidential Elections in 2014, the General Election Commission (KPU) held candidate debates. The Commission held a series of five debates between the candidates in the 2014 presidential elections

In these debates, both candidates presented their visions, missions and programs related to themes that had been set by the Commission. The communities could assess the ability of presidential and vice presidential candidates.

The Impact of Debates on Voters

By definition, a debate is a way to express logical ideas and opinions through supporting evidence between two parties.

The implementation of debates in the presidential elections has been set in Act No. 42/2008 on the Elections. Article 38 Paragraph (1) of Act No. 42/2008 regulates that the campaign can be done by the candidates through debates.

The debates between the two pairs of candidates were interesting to watch.

However, the question is whether the debates will influence voters? The author argues that debates will not have a significant impact on voters' choices. Voters will retain their original choices even though they have watched the debates by the two pairs of candidates.

The debates, which lasted for two hours, have been seen as not touching substantive things. Obviously, with the limited, available time, it was hard for the people to understand the visions, missions, and programs from both pairs of candidates.

The people and the media prefer the candidates that will give rise to the debates in the public. At first, the candidates will have intense

onversations in the media and on social media. Even though the debates should include visions, missions, and programs from both candidates, the debates did not become a major part of public conversation.

According to the results of the polls by Political Indicator Indonesia and Metro TV, a number of respondents claimed to stick to their original presidential candidate choices even though they recognize the superiority of the opponents in the second debate. According to the results of the poll after the debates, there was no major superiority as Jokowi-JK got 47.2%, Prabowo-Hatta 46.5%, while 6.3% did not answer. Lessons from the presidential debates, there was no absolute superiority, but Jokowi has emphasis on implementation. However, when asked about who will be elected, it seems that Jokowi-JK has got 51.4%, which was far superior than the Prabowo Hatta pair at the rate of 40.9% (www.mediaindonesia.com, 17/6).

Political communications expert from the University of Diponegoro, Triyono Lukmantoro said that presidential debates had only affected the undecided voters or prospective voters. For those who have already preferred candidates, the debates had no major influence (www.sinarharapan.co, 9/6).

Conclusions

According to the author, the effects are not big enough to influence voters' choices before July 9. What should be noted is that the debates, which have been conducted since the 2004 presidential elections, are still needed, because debates are a medium of political education for the communities.

The debates in the future are expected to bring the debates into the public sphere. The debates of ideas in public domain aim to generate public awareness in democracy. Therefore, the debates should spark public policy education efforts in order to establish a more democratic social order.

- Arfianto Purbolaksono-

In the 2014 presidential elections, the debates did not significantly affect the choices of voters, but what should be noted was that the debates were a medium of political education for the communities.

The Need to Oppose Child Labor Practices

June 12 is celebrated as the International World Day against Child Labor. The annual celebration has been marked by campaigns in various forms for various purposes. There have been campaign to assure the fulfillment of the rights that should be owned by child labor and campaign to stop child labor practices.

The Statistics and Objective Conditions of Child Labor

In the present context, the campaign against child labor practices still continues to be relevant at the global level and Indonesia itself, where the number of child workers is still high. In the global context, there are currently about 168 million children working as child labor (ILO, 2014). More than half of them put their health and safety at risk.

In the Indonesian context, in 2013 the Indonesian Child Protection Commission (KPAI) stated that there were 4.7 million child workers. Most of them were in Papua with 34.7 percent of the total child labor, then followed by North Sulawesi and West Sulawesi with 20.46 percent 19.82 percent, respectively.

Of the total number, about 1.1 million children work in urban areas and another 2.3 million child laborers work in rural areas. Judging from the types of jobs, they generally work as domestic workers (PRT), miners, industry workers, boat crew (ABK) and so on. Most of them work in bad conditions with high risks, neglecting the fulfillment and protection of their rights as children and workers. They are paid below the minimum wages (UMR), work for long hours, do not get insurance and so on and so forth.

The high number of child laborers is also coupled with the increasing number of abandoned children and street children. According to the National Commission for Children, the current number of abandoned children is 6.1 million. In 2010, there were only 4.5 million of them.

Related to child labor, Indonesia targets to be free of child labor by

2020. There is a variety of programs. Since 2002, the government of Indonesia has issued the National Action Plan for Removing Worst Child Labour (RAN-PK). Most people have assumed RAN does not work well because the fact is that until now the number of child laborers is still high. However, it does not mean that RAN is not important. The NPA should be able to be a guide to operationalize the relevant sectors at national and local levels.

Later, the Ministry of Women's Empowerment and Child Protection (KPP & PA) has also initiated the establishment of the Association of Friends of Children of Indonesia. This association consists of a number of companies that campaign to no longer employ children. The work has not been optimal because the new association is only filled by large corporations. In fact, there are also many child workers in small and micro enterprises.

Recommendations

Responding to this, all parties must actively take on the role. The government, in this case the Ministry of Manpower and Transmigration and the Ministry of Women's Empowerment and Child Protection, must be firm against companies that still employ children, especially if they are placed in bad conditions.

Community groups and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) should be partners in educating them about various related policies.

The campaigns run by the Government and NGOs on child labor should be more widely performed. The hope is that the public will proactively report to police and monitor their neighborhoods, particularly companies that still employ children.

It is only with the cooperation of all parties, the discourse of abolishing worst child labor can be met in 2020. This is because well-educated and well-organized society is the main prerequisite for a policy to be able to be implemented well, appropriate and relevant.

-Lola Amelia-

It is only with the cooperation of all parties, the discourse of abolishing worst child labor can be met in 2020. This is because well-educated and well-organized society is the main prerequisite for a policy to be able to be implemented well, appropriate and relevant.

 THE INDONESIAN INSTITUTE
CENTER FOR PUBLIC POLICY RESEARCH

The Indonesian Institute (TII) is a Center for Public Policy Research which was officially established since 21 October, 2004 by a group of young and dynamic activists and intellectuals. **TII** is an independent, nonpartisan, and non-profit institution having its main funding source from grants and donations from foundations, corporations, and individuals.

TII aims to become the center for major researches in Indonesia for issues regarding public policy and committed to contribute to debates on public policy and to improve the quality of the creation and results of public policy in the new democratic situation in Indonesia.

TII's mission is to conduct researches that are reliable, independent, and nonpartisan, and to channel the researches results to policy makers, the business world, and civilians in order to improve the quality of public policy in Indonesia. **TII** also has the mission to educate the community in policy issues that affect their livelihoods. In other words, **TII** is in a position to support the process of democratization and public policy reform, as well as taking an important and active role in that process.

The scope of the researches and public policy studies conducted by **TII** covers the fields of economics, social, and politics. The main activity conducted in order to reach the vision and mission of **TII** among others are researches, surveys, trainings, working group facilitation, public discussions, public educations, editorial writings (**TII** expression), publications of weekly analysis (*Wacana*), monthly studies (*Update Indonesia*, in Bahasa Indonesia and English) and annual studies (*Indonesia Report*), and public discussion forum (*The Indonesian Forum*).

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POLITICAL RESEARCH

The consolidating democracy needs direction and guidance in order to realise a strong national political system. In addition, decentralization as part of democratization has created room for more issues in the development of political system in Indonesia. Therefore, political analysis are present for the government, political parties, the business sector and professionals, academics, non-governmental organizations, donors, and civil society to answer recent political issues.

TII's Political Research Division provides policy analyses and recommendations in order to produce strategic policies to consolidate democracy and to achieve good governance at the central and local levels. Types of political research offered by TII are: **(1) Public Policy Analyses, (2) Media Monitoring, (3) Mapping & Positioning Research, (4) Needs Assessment Research, (5) Survey Indicators.**

RESEARCH ON THE SOCIAL AFFAIRS

Social development needs policy foundations that come from independent and accurate research. Social analysis is a need for the government, the businesspeople, academia, professionals, NGOs, and civil society to improve social development. The Social Research Division is present to offer recommendations to produce efficient and effective policies, steps, and programs on education, health, population, environment, women and children.

Social research that **TII** offers: **(1) Social Policy Analysis; (2) Explorative Research; (3) Mapping & Positioning Research; (4) Need Assessment Research; (5) Program Evaluation Research; and (5) Indicator Survey.**

RESEARCH ON LEGAL AFFAIRS

According to stipulations in Law No. 12 Year 2011 on the Formulation of Laws and Regulations, every bill which will be discussed by the legislative and the executive must be complemented with academic paper. Therefore, comprehensive research is very important and needed in making a qualified academic paper. With qualified academic papers, the bills will have strong academic foundation.

TII can offer and undertake normative and legal research related to harmonization and synchronization of laws and regulations, especially in making academic papers and bills. In addition, the research will be conducted with sociological, anthropological, and political approaches in order to produce a more comprehensive academic papers and bills. It is expected that with such a process, the laws and regulations will be produced through such a participatory process, which involves the making of academic papers and bills to also go through process, such as focus group discussion (FGD) which will involve stakeholders related to the laws and regulations that will be discussed.

RESEARCH ON ECONOMIC AFFAIRS

The economy tends to be used as an indicator of the success of the government as a policy-maker. Limited resources have often caused the government to face obstacles in implementing economic policies that will optimally benefit the people. The increase in the quality of the people's critical thinking has forced the government to conduct comprehensive studies in every decision-making process. In fact, the studies will not be stopped when the policy is already in place. Studies will be continued until the policy evaluation process.

The TII Economic Research Division is present for those who are interested in the conditions of the economy. The results of the research are intended to assist policy-makers, regulators, and donor agencies in making decisions. The research that TII offers: **(1) Economic Policy Analysis; (2) Regional and Sectoral Prospects; and (3) Program Evaluation.**

Project or Program Evaluation

One of the activities that have been conducted and offered by TII is a qualitative evaluation on a project or a program of a non-governmental organization or a government agency. Evaluation activities that are offered by TII are a mid-term evaluation and a final evaluation.

As we may already know, evaluation is one of the important stages in the implementation of a project or a program. A mid-term evaluation is intended to see and analyze challenges, lessons learned during the project or the program, and to give recommendations on the implementation of the project or the program. Meanwhile, a final evaluation will be useful to see and analyze the achievements and lessons learned to ensure that all the projects or the program's goals are achieved at the end of the project or program.

THE INDONESIAN FORUM

The Indonesian Forum is a monthly discussion activity on actual issues in the political, economic, social, legal, cultural, defense, and environmental fields. TII organizes these forums as media for competent resource persons, stakeholders, policymakers, civil society activists, academicians, and the media to meet and have discussion.

Themes that have been raised were the ones that have caught public attention, such as migrant workers, social conflicts, domestic politics, and local direct elections. The main consideration in picking a theme is sociological and political reality and the context of the relevant public policy at the time that the Indonesian Forum is delivered.

It is expected that the public can get the big picture of a particular event as the Indonesian Forum also presents relevant resource persons.

Since its inception, the Indonesian Institute is very aware of the passion of the public to get discussions that are not only rich in substance but also well formatted, which support balanced ideas exchanges ideas and the equal involvement of the different elements of the society.

The discussions, which are designed to only invite a limited number of participants, do not only feature idea exchanges but also regularly offer policy briefs (policy recommendations) to relevant policymakers and also summaries to the participants, especially the media people and the resource persons at the end of each discussion. Therefore, the discussions will not end without solutions.

LOCAL COUNCIL TRAINING

The roles and functions of local councils in monitoring local governments are very important. They need to ensure that participative and democratic policies will be espoused. Members of provincial and regent local councils are required to have strong capacity to understand democratization matters, regional autonomy, legislative techniques, budgeting, local Politics, and political marketing. Thus, it is important to empower members of local councils.

In order for local councils to be able to response every problem that will come out as a result of any policy implemented by the central government or local governments, the Indonesian Institute invites the leaderships and members of local councils to undergo training to improve their capacity.

WORKING GROUP

The Indonesian Institute believes that a good public policy process can be held with some engagement and empowerment of the stakeholders. The Indonesian Institute takes a role as one of mediator agencies to facilitate some forums in which the Government, Council Members, Private Sectors, NGOs and Academicians can meet in interactive forums. The Indonesian Institute provides facilitation on working groups and public advocacy.

The Indonesian Institute takes the role of mediator and facilitator in order to encourage the synergy of public policy work between the stakeholders and policy makers and also to have a synergy with funding agencies (donors).

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